NGOs are involved in various sectors and individual Ministries/Departments have their own Mechanism/agency for funding NGOs. The Central Social Welfare Board and CAPART are two national level agencies supporting NGOs. In addition people's involvement is sought through Panchayati Raj Institution (PRIs).

Old Wheat Stocks

4882. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India has ordered the moving of old wheat stocks from other States to the wheat growing States of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan;

(b) if so, whether this is clear that the FCI has not been able to procure the wheat according to the projected targets;

(c) if so, whether by the FCI headquarters orders have already been issued for shifting of 1.5 lakh tonnes of wheat from Maharashtra;

(d) whether the Government are also considering that imports of wheat may be put into Maharashtra and Gujarat States godowns;

(e) whether serious situation has arisen out of the shortage of godowns for keeping the imported wheat; and

(f) if so, the necessary steps being taken to stock the imported wheat and also the wheat locally procured by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINSTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir. 9.96 lakh tonnes wheat for MP and 6.75 lakh tonnes wheat for Rajashtan procured in Punjab and Haryana during 1994-95 and 1995-96 crop years was planned for movement to these States during the year 1996-97 as these States, though wheat growing States, are not self-sufficient for meeting their wheat requirements. Against this planning, the actual materialisation of wheat for M.P. and Rajasthan was to the extent of 6.22 and 5.61 lakh tonnes respectively.

(b) So far (1.5.1997), FCI has procured 20085 MTs and 3626 MTs of wheat in Rajasthan and M.P. respectively during the current rabi marketing season 1997-98. The procurement in Rajasthan compared to corresponding period of last year is less in the current rabi season.

(c) 60,000 MTs indigenous wheat each during March, 1997 and April 1997 was ordered to be moved from Maharashtra to M.P.

(d) Yes, Sir. Since the discharging ports are situated on the West coast of India and the East coast of India including Maharashtra and Gujarat, the discharged wheat cargo is being moved to Food Corporation of India godowns situated in these States. Moreover, imported wheat stock is also being issued in non-wheat growing areas of Maharashtra and Gujarat.

(e) No, Sir. Food Corporation of India is having adequate storage capacity to store imported wheat as well as indigenous wheat and rice.

(f) Instructions have been issued to field offices to hire the additional storage capacity if required from Central/ State Government agencies and private parties so as to accommodate foodgrains wherever found necessary.

Wheat Procurement Prices

4883. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the price of wheat in big open markets like Hapur and the current procurement price fixed by the Government including bonus per quintal;

(b) the manner in which the Government expect to achieve its target of wheat procurement in the light of wide difference between the two prices;

(c) whether the Government considered the option of withholding Bank credit to private traders for stocking the foodgrains which would considerable restrain their holding capacity; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINSTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The price of wheat quoted in the mandies of major wheat procuring States on 1.5.97 ranged between Rs. 475 to Rs. 850 per quintal. The minimum support prices notified by Government for wheat during the current Rabi Marketing Season (1997-98) is Rs. 415/- per quintal. In addition, Government has announced a bonus of Rs. 60/- per quintal for the wheat sold to procuring agencies during the period from 17.3.97 to 10.6.97

(b) The price of wheat in most of the wheat procuring States has come down to the level of the price being paid by the Government procuring agencies which is Rs. 475/- per quintal inclusive of the Central bonus.

A quantity of 20.29 lakh tonnes has already been procured for Central pool (as on 2.5.97) in the current Rabi Marketing Season 1997-98. It is expected that with the